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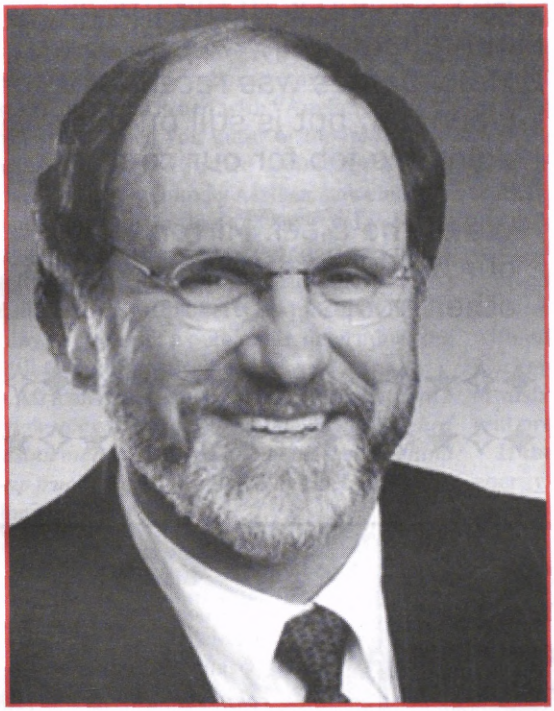
Governor Jon Corzine – Putting New Jersey's Financial House in Order



If no one is happy about the state's proposed budget, that's a positive sign that it is a good budget, or at least, the state is finally heading in the right direction.

When the governor took office, he promised to get New Jersey fiscally responsible, no more deficit spending or "one-shot" fiscal gimmicks. The budget Governor Corzine sent to the Legislature accomplishes those promises.

There are spending cuts in virtually every area: property rebates, hospitals, municipal aid, education, and the arts. But, as the governor said, "if anyone has a better idea, give it to him." No one came up with a better idea for getting New Jersey's financial house in order.

What Governor Corzine has done this year with the state's budget is just the beginning not the end. Spending in New Jersey has been out of control for more than thirty years and the taxpayers have said, enough already.

Governor Corzine deserves high marks for having the courage to fight the special interest and do what's right for the taxpayers of New Jersey.

Major John James

We salute Sharpe James' son – Major John James of the New Jersey National Guard.

He's serving with the troops in Afghanistan.
Major James was recently wounded, but is still on duty, doing his job for our country.

We of the Black Mirror send our blessing to you and all the other troops.

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TO LOVE MY PEOPLE SHOULDN'T IMPLY I HATE OTHERS...
(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

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Reprinted, from a 1999 column on President Clinton

"HIGH CRIMES"

by Lorraine Lavender

After living in the good old U.S. of A. for almost 70 years, my anger at the duplicity of the "Anglo" fathers – as one of the senators persecuting the president referred to the laws of the constitution on which these sanctimonious rednecks are basing their argument against the president's recent reprehensible personal behavior has only heightened. True, his actions are morally wrong, but high crimes and misdemeanors? Give me a break.

These same highly moral protector of the public interest are only concerned with "Anglo" rights as is quite evident when you know of the millions of instances of miscarried justice against the American citizens of color. Namely African Americans.

Although the constitution was amended to ostensibly right the racist articles the founding fathers had written into this so-called epitome of "one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all," to this day, the color of a man's skin determines the kind of liberty and justice he receives.

If an African American commits a crime, (*and, I don't know of an African American who has lynched a caucasian man or dragged him to his death behind a pick-up truck*), he is not judged by the law, but by the color of his skin.

We have been denied education or the right to make a decent living or the right to decent housing because of the color of our skin. But, these elected do-gooders will send millions of our dollars trying to prove that the president has committed a high crime because as a married man, he lied about sleeping with another woman. How righteous can some people pretend to be? Do you think this action will show that you are good just people. NO! You want us to believe that only a few of you are bad. Well, if that's the case, why can't you stop these "bad" ones in their tracks, when you can deploy thousands of our men to supposedly promote democracy in foreign countries. Did you know that before Africa was invaded that continent had the most advanced democratic government in the world? I'm sure you are aware of this, that's why it's not documented in your history books but it's in ours.

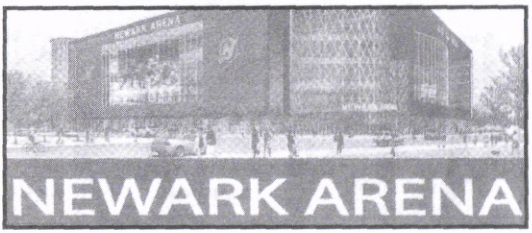
Racism in this country has destroyed more lives, resources, and ambition than all of the sleeping with other women since the beginning of time. All I believe is that these actions are just another way of distracting the people of the country from the real problems. The high crime of racism.

If these so-called protectors would put as much energy in righting the high crimes and misdemeanors committed against the African Americans, instead of blowing smoke, this country would begin to look like the democratic picture you are trying to make the world believe exists.

Just a Suggestion...

by MC Observer

The Prudential Center is a beautiful arena and no matter what one thinks, it is in Newark, where you and I live. Our tax dollars helped build this beautiful entertainment venue.



People of Newark, who have businesses should buckle up and try to improve and beautify their establishments to go along with this new place. Growling, and complaining is not the answer.

We should all try to make something happen to increase the welfare of the city.

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NEWS

M. Teresa Ruiz, Director

Essex County Executive DiVincenzo Proposes to Rename Former Jail as the "Essex County Leroy F. Smith, Jr. Public Safety Building"

Newark, NJ – The dedication ceremony recognized the lifetime contributions of Newark resident Leroy F. Smith, Jr., who served as Associate Director of Emergency Medical Services at UMDNJ for 38 years until he retired in 2007.

"If you ever found yourself in an emergency, Leroy Smith was the person you wanted to come and rescue you. He is an Essex County legend and hero who regularly responded to crisis and emergency situations, removed victims from danger and aided those in need. He always went above and beyond the call of duty, and regularly risked his own life to save the lives of others," DiVincenzo said. "Leroy was also very committed to organizing recreation programs for our youth. His leadership gave generations of our kids positive activities to enjoy and learn from," he added.

"I want to thank everyone for coming and sharing this day with me and my family," Smith said. He shared his sharp sense of humor, joking that it was a mistake to let him hold a microphone and thanking everyone for "tolerating me for all these years." During the ceremony, the NorthStar Medivac helicopter performed a flyover the county plaza as a tribute to Smith.

Congressman Donald Payne said, "there is no better person to have this building named after than Leroy Smith." Freeholder Samuel Gonalez noted that Smith "instilled important values in my life and did so for so many other kids growing up."

Smith was raised in Newark, where he still resides. He is married to Marie Rose and they have two sons.

For more information about Essex log on to www.essexcountynj.org

Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzio congratulates Leroy F. Smith, Jr., at the dedication ceremony.

SummerMusic

ESSEX COUNTY'S FREE CONCERT SERIES

This summer, spend your evenings attending our Free SummerMusic Concert Series throughout the Essex County Park System. We invite you to emjoy the music and our historic parks.

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Essex County Executive

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Tue., July 8	7:00pm	Monte Irvin Orange Park	Melvin Davis
Wed., July 9	7:00 pm	Independence Park	La Fuerza Positivia
Thurs., July 10	7:00 pm	Kip's Castle Park	Tarantella Under the Stars! featuring Coro e Scuola d'Italia
Fri., July 11	7:30 pm	Brookdale Park	An Evening with Dionne Warwick
Tue., July 15	7:00 pm	Ivy Hill Park	Denise Hamilton
Fri., July 18	7:30 pm	Brookdale Park	Tribute Night fea. Beginnings & Big Shot covering Chicago & Billy Joel
Tue., July 22	7:00 pm	Verona Park	Main Gazane
Wed., July 23	7:00 pm	Irvington Park	Gradie Stone Quartet
Fri., July 25	7:30 pm	Brookdale Park	Larry Chance & The Earls & Kenny Vance & The Planotones
Tue., July 29	7:00pm	West Side Park	Lonnie Youngblood
Wed., July 30	7:00 pm	Yanticaw Park	Marty DeRose
Fri., August 1	7:30 pm	Brookdale Park	The Infernos
Tue., August 5	7:00 pm	Vailsburg Park	Bradford Hayes
Fri., August 8	7:30 pm	Brookdale Park	Jazz Under the Stars w/Kim Waters & Carrie Jackson
Sun. August 10	10:00 am	Monte Irvin Orange Park	City of Orange presents a Spanish-Latin Festival
Tues., August 12	7:00 pm	Watsessing Park	Carrie Jackson Quartet
Fri., August 15	7:30 pm	Brookdale Park	Johnny Maestro & The Brooklyn Bridge
Sun. August 17	10:00 am	Monte Irvin Orange Park	City of Orange presents a Caribbean Festival
Tues., August 19	7:00 pm	Grover Cleveland Park	Edmund Brothers
Tue., August 26	7:00 pm	Weequahic Park	Vince Ector
Tues., August 28	7:00 pm	Riverbank Park	Carlos Francis Sextet

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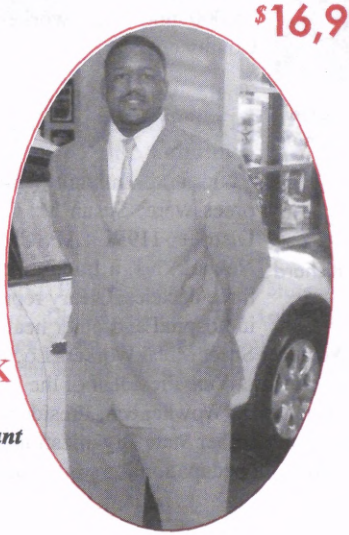

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Essex-West Hudson Labor Council AFL-CIO recently sponsored its 21st Annual Breakfast

Thomas P. Giblin, President, of Montclair noted that over two hundred people were in attendance. The council was privileged to have U.S. Congressmen Donald M. Payne and William J. Pascrell Jr. as Speakers. Giblin said both Payne and Pascrell provided informational talks about current events including the Iraq War, the economy, and the energy crisis.

PASCRELL HONORS (L-R): Charles E. Wowkanech, President NJ State AFL-CIO receiving a Congressional Citation from Congressman William J. Pascrell, Jr. (D-8)

The Essex-West Hudson Labor Council AFL-CIO through the Chairman Kevin P. Frey, provided ten scholarships from over sixty entrants who had completed applications. The 2008 Labor Scholarship Winners were: Matthew T. Birchenough of Midland Park, Matthew S. Cordiero of North Arlington, Samantha Coughlin of West Caldwell, Kelly M. Fedynich of Wantage, Richard T. Gerard of Monroe, NY, Britney C. Glass of East Orange, Agyaaku F. Kyei of Newark, Marielle Thorsen of Belvidere, Kayla Torppey of Lyndhurst and Brian Whelan of West Keansburg. The 2008 recipients were the eligible dependents of AFL-CIO members who are part of the Essex-West Hudson Labor Council, which represents 75,000 unionized workers in the Essex County area.

2008 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: Seated (L-R): Marielle I. Thorsen, Belvidere HS, IUOE Local 68, Britney C. Glass, East Orange Campus HS, IUOE Local 68, Kayla Torppey, Lyndhurst HS, Iron Workers Local 11, Samantha R. Coughlin, James Caldwell HS, UFCW Local 1245. Standing (L-R): Agyaaku F. Kyei, Newark Science HS, ATU Local 819, Matthew T. Birchenough, Midland Park HS, Bricklayers Local 4, Matthew S. Cordiero, North Arlington HS, CWA Local 1037, Richard T. Gerard, Monroe-Woodbury HS, HPAE Local 5089.

There were three Awards presented to AFL-CIO officials for their many years of dedication and commitment to Labor, Civic and Community Activities. The honorees were; Susan M. Cleary, President District 1199J, AFSCME, located in Newark, NJ, a trade unionist for almost three decades, Cleary represents members in hospital and other health care facilities in New Jersey. Joseph F. Demark, Jr. is President/Business Manager Sheet Metal Workers Local 25. Joseph Demark Jr. is a third generation sheet metal worker and also serves as a Vice President of the NJ State Building and Construction Trades Council. The third honoree was Charles E. Wowkanech, President NJ State AFL-CIO. Charles Wowkanech has been President of the One Million Member State Organization, located in Trenton, NJ, since 1997 and he has spearheaded efforts in health care, occupational training, and has conveyed labor's message to supporters and decision makers.

SCIENCE HIGH HONOREE (L-R): Kevin P. Frey, Scholarship Committee Chair, Walter V. Genuario, Committee Co-Chair, Agyaaku F. Kyei, 2008 Scholarship Recipient of Newark Science High School, Maxwell Kyei, ATU Local 819, Thomas P. Giblin, President, Essex-West Hudson Labor Council.

PAYNE SPEAKS (L-R): U.S. Congressman Donald M. Payne (D-10) Benjamin F. Evans, President Local 819 ATU, Charles E. Wowkanech, President, NJ State AFL-CIO and Michael D. Lewis, IUOE Local 68, Business Representative.

PROUD FATHER (L-R): US Congressman Donald M. Payne, New Jersey State AFL-CIO President and 2008 Breakfast Honoree Charles E. Wowkanech, President-NJ State AFL-CIO, Richard T. Gerard, 2008 Scholarship Recipient of Woodbury High School, Monroe, NY, Bernie Gerard, Jr., HPAE Local 5089.

CLEARY HONORED (L-R): Grisel M. Lopez. State Director, Nursing, District 1199J, 2008 Labor Breakfast Honoree Susan M. Cleary, President. District 1199J, Phyllis Shivers, State Director, Home Health Care.

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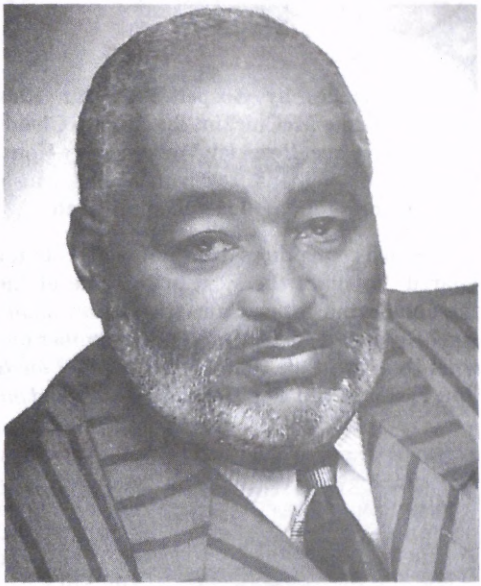

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Talented competitors from across the country prepared to share the stage with some of the biggest names in Gospel: Superstar *Kirk Franklin,* Gospel Great *Donnie McClurkin,* the number one Gospel Quartet in the country the *Mighty Clouds of Joy,* Pastor of Hip Hop *Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Choir, Prince of Praise Byron Cage,* the hardest working woman in Gospel Music *Vickie Winans* and the Duchess of Gospel *Cissy Houston.*

Produced and directed by Emmy Award winning Producer, A. Curtis Farrow, McDonald's Gospelfest is a talent competition that features choirs, steppers, praise dancers, soloists, rappers and poets. Rising stars of all colors, ages, cultures and faiths competed in a variety of categories including Soloists, Youth Choir, Adult Choir, Praise Dance, Step, Spanish language Soloists, Singing Groups, Gospel Rappers and Gospel Poets.

McDONALD' GOSPELFEST 2008 WINNERS

CATEGORY	NAME	HOMETOWN
PRAISE DANCE GROUP	VENETTES CULTURAL WORKSHOP	LONG ISLAND, NY
YOUTH CHOIR	HERITAGE SHOW CHOIR	PLAINFIELD, NJ
STEP TEAM	THE STEP TEAM FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE POTTER HOUSE	HARLEM, NY
RAP	BROTHA REMIXX	NEPTUNE, NJ
GROUP	THE WALLACE SISTERS	BROOKLYN, NY
POET	CHE´RI HUMPHREY	BRIDGEPORT, CT
SPANISH LANGUAGE SOLO	YAHAIRA TORRES	QUEENS, NY
TEEN SOLO	NAJIYAH TORRES	HARLEM, NY
SOLO-TRIO PRAISE DANCE	EBONY JONES	ORANGE, NJ
FEMALE SOLO	BEVERLY COX	HEMPSTEAD, NY
MALE SOLO	JOHN HANKS	YORK, PA
ADULT CHOIR	ONLY GOD KNOWS	BROOKLYN, NY
OUT-OF-TOWN	IMANI FELLOWSHIP CHOIR	SEATTLE, WA

HERITAGE SHOW CHOIR

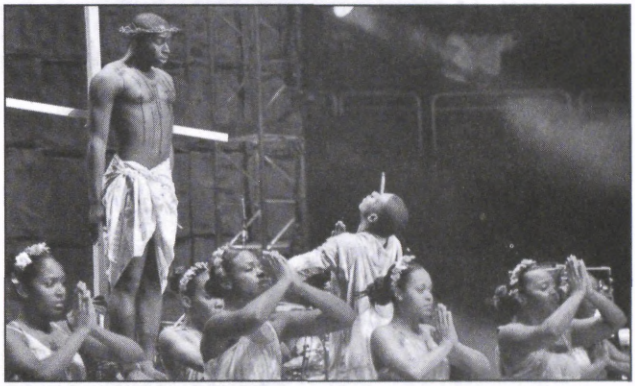
YAHAIRA TORRES

BEVERLY COX

IMANI FELLOWSHIP CHOIR

THE WALLACE SISTERS

BROTHA REMIXX

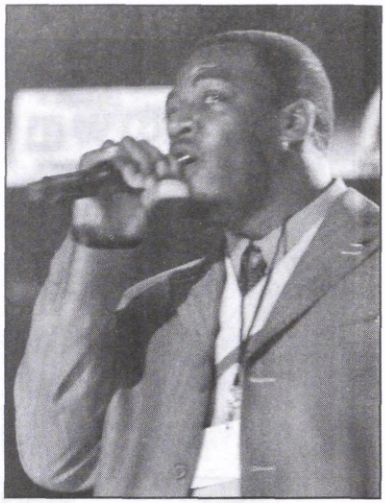


VENETTES CULTURAL WORKSHOP

THE STEP TEAM FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE POTTTER HOUSE

continued on page 14}

CHE´RI HUMPHREY



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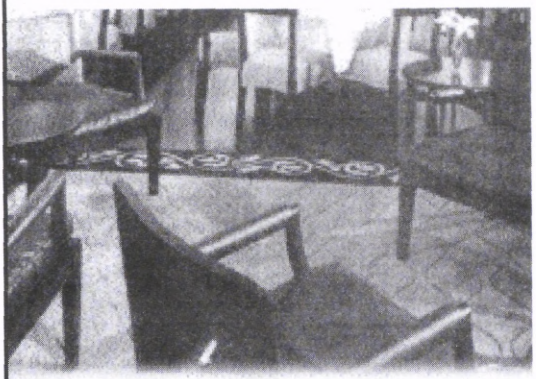

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Fallen Leaves

KATHY J. WARD-STEBBINS
Wife, mother, daughter, 44

The Hillside resident made her transition on June 24, 2008.

A celebration of her life was held at the Christian Love Baptist Church in Irvington. She was the loving daughter of Robert Ward Jr. and the late Jean Ward; devoted wife of Jerry J. Stebbins Jr; cherished mother of the late Eugene Ward; devoted step-daughter of Jerry II and Jereme Stebbins; adored Godmother of Racquel Reed; caring sister of Joyce, Barbara, Jacqueline, Karin, Anita, Tiffany, Janice, Veronica, Robert Jr., Reginald and Ronald; and special grandmother of Eugene Jr., Caleb, Zaire and Sincere. She is also survived by a host of sisters and brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, great nieces and great-nephews and close friends.

FITZROY N. GRIMES
Husband and brother, 80

Mr. Grimes was the beloved husband of Gertrude Grimes; dear brother of Elsie Grimes and Derick Hill; loving uncle of David and Sharon Harry; devoted cousin to Arthur, John and Lennox Telford, and lifelong friend of Pat Richardson. He is also survived by a host of other relatives and many, many friends.

BARBARA B. JONES-GLOVER
Teacher and principal in East Orange, 66

She was born in East Orange and was a resident of Montclair for over 35 years.

Ms. Jones-Glover began her teaching career in 1969 in the East Orange School District and became a principal in 1984 at the Ashland Avenue School and then Dionne Warwick Academy until her retirement in 2000. She was graduate of the East Orange School, Class of 1960, and received a B.A. ad M.A. at Newark State Teachers College.

She was the beloved sister of Carolyn Gail Tyson and loving aunt of George Tyson. She is also survived by a host of other relatives and friends.

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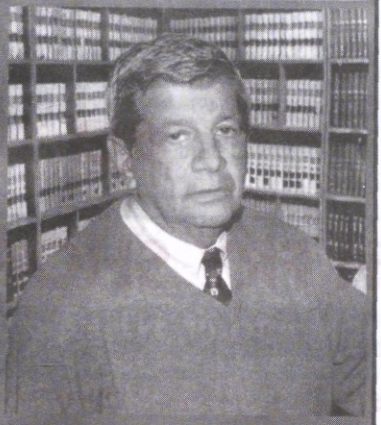

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Today is a gift – that's why we call the present."
Carl (Tiny Prince) Brinson

Musings: Did you know that Walter Jacobs is still a member of *"The Black Mirror News."*? Also, that Joseph Mennella, the past Nat'l. Commander of the Italian-American War Veterans of the US, was also the directer of Personnel at the Newark Housing Authority?… We haven't seen Hope L. Cooper, who now works for the state of New Jersey in Trenton, lately – smiles… New Yorker, Pamela Michelle Jasper is one fine looking lady – she's visiting in Newark NJ (smiles)… Stay tuned for the "big blow-out" B-Day party Milton Curtis Battle of MetroWorld Productions will hold for his beloved spouse, Brenda Hofler-Battle in August. *The Black Mirror News* will be on the scene to check out the attendees, food, and fun… Just thinking about Tiger Woods when he won the 61st Masters Golf Match in 1997 – what a winner. And, he not finished yet – wait until he recovers from the knee operation and returns to the circuit next year (smiles)… Former councilwoman Gayle Chaneyfield, never stops trying to help people –(in or out of a political office) smiles… The folks who were fired from the Newark Housing Authority (*and there's been more*) have never said anything to the people they elected to help them – the state elected officials and the representatives in Washington, DC. What's up with that?… James Parrillo's beverage company will be offering a new pleasant drink soon – smiles… Wondering about Shelly Ann Bates, who was elected to the Hillside Township Council – would like to know how she's doing (smiles)… Welcome to Newarker Dwight Brown, the new Central Ward Chairman – they say he's a smart and intelligent fellow… Up in East Orange 3rd Ward Freeholder Carol Clark is always trying to make sure folks in her community understand what the County can do for them. Great job… Don't forget to meet and greet at the Maize at the Robert Treat Hotel.

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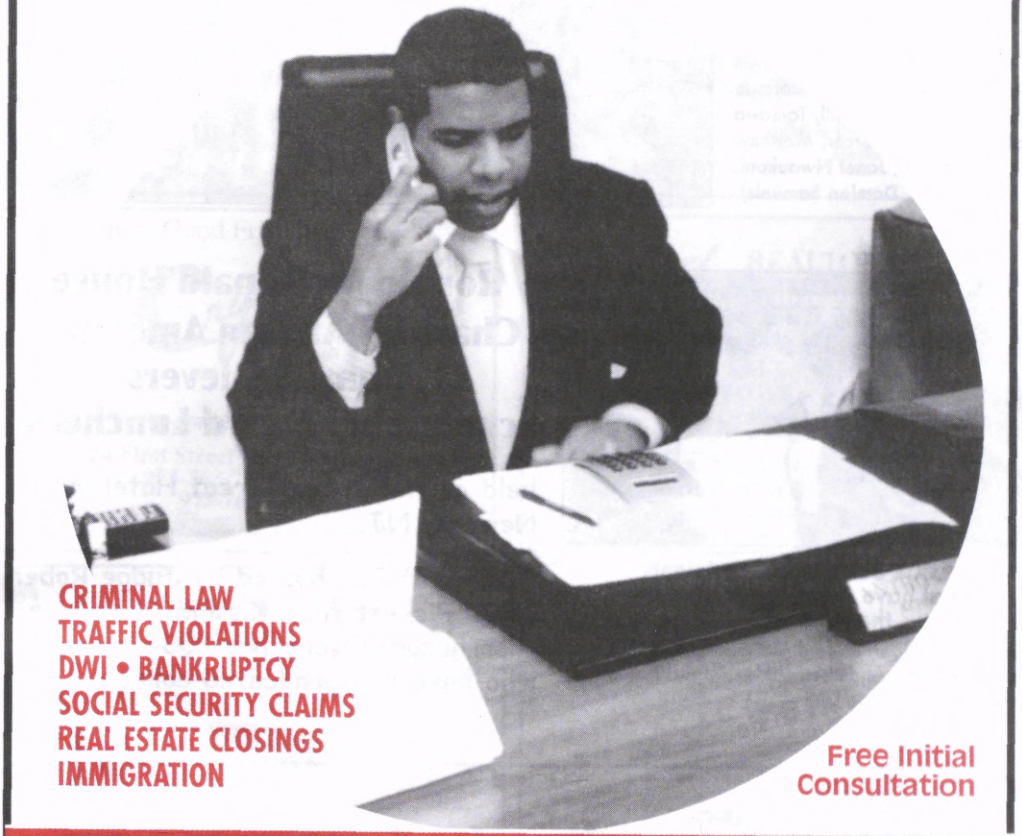

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BIOGRAPHY -

Anthony C. Mack was born and raised in Newark's North Ward (at the time known as the 4th Ward). He is a graduate of Bloomfield Technical High School. He received his undergraduate degree from Seton Hall University and his Juris Doctor from Rutgers University School of Law Newark.

Mr. Mack is a former staff attorney with Legal Aid Society - Criminal Defense Division in Manhattan. There he represented indigent defendants in a wide variety of criminal matters. Mr. Mack is now in private practice with offices in Newark and in Manhattan. He specializes in criminal defense, personal injury and civil rights litigation.

Mr. Mack currently serves as counsel to several activist organizations such as the People's Organization for Progress. Mr. Mack also served as lead counsel in the 1998 Million Youth March criminal trial in New York County Supreme Court.

Some of Mr. Mack's notable current clients are Sammy "The Bull" Gravano and the Estate of Jose Luis Ives, Jr. (the 17 year old who was slain in July of 2003 by a Weehawken police officer).

Mr. Mack has also served as a legal correspondent on various radio shows on WLIB, WBLS & The Open Line on Kiss-FM.

Mr. Mack credits his wide range of experiences as an adolescent and young man in the City of Newark, to give him a personal view of the many plights that affect his clients.

He also credits his hard work ethic, which is the basis of his accomplishments to date, to his mother who is now deceased but worked as a housekeeper in South Orange when he was growing up.

(from left to right) Ronald McDonald, Kadeshia Kilgore, Earl Roach, Alicia Robinson, Jonathan Felix, Joshua Reyes-Layne, Jossy Page, Narissa Williams, Phillip Gaye, Judge Robert Pickett from KissFM's Open Line (Not pictured: Joanne Biennestin, Tanaya Hill, Tamasia Johnson, Elijah Mercer, Matthew Moore, Janet Nwaukoni, Damion Samuels).

2004 Scholarship Recipients that have graduated college - the class of 2008

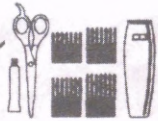
(from left to right) Ronald McDonald, Khalilah Daley, Michael Anderson, Judge Robert Pickett from KissFM's Open Line .

Ronald McDonald House Charities African American Future Achievers Scholarship Award Luncheon

held at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, NJ.

The event was hosted by Judge Robert "Bob" Pickett from KissFM Open Line. Also honored were two 2004 receipts who have now graduated college.

Tradewind's



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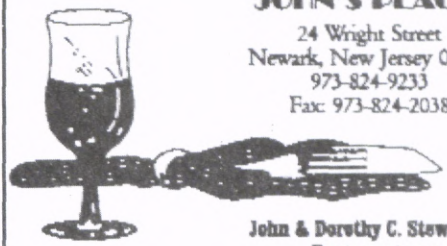

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Quotes from the Courtroom...

Q: What is your date of birth?

A: *July fifteenth.*

Q: What year?

A: *Every year.*

Q: What driving gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

A: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

Q: What's first thing your husband said to you when he woke that morning?

A: He said, "Where am I, Cathy?"

Q: And why did that upset you?

A: My name is Susan.

Q: How old is your son; the one living with you.

A: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

Q: How long has he lived with you?

A: Forty-five years.

Q: And where was the location of the accident?

A: Approximately milepost 499.

Q: And where is milepost 499?

A: Probably between milepost 498 and 500.

Q: Trooper, when you stopped the defendant, were your red and blue lights flashing?

A: Yes.

Q: Did the defendant say anything when she got out of her car?

A: Yes, sir.

Q: What did she say?

A: What disco am I at?

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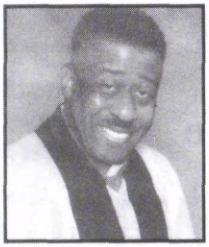

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